Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, XX
SUBJ: TENTH REPORT OF US DELEGATION TO ICAO ASSEMBLY,
MONTREAL, OCTOBER 8

1. BELGIUM INTRODUCED ITS PROPOSAL IN EXECUTIVE COMMITTE FOR AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 50(A) OF CHICAGO CONVENTION TO INCREASE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF ICAO COUNCIL FROM 30 TO 33 OR 36. MANY STATES SUPPORTED THE INCREASE TO 33 AND A FEW TO 36. UK, CANADA, AND THE FRG THOUGHT A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF EFFICIENCY WOULD BE LOST WITH THE INCREASE BUT WERE PREPARED TO SUPPORT 33. US POINTED OUT SEVERAL REASONS WHY AN INCREASE COMING SO SOON AFTER THE ONE WHICH CAME INTO FORCE LAST YEAR WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE. SENEGAL, TANZANIA, BARBADOS, SUDAN, ALGERIA AND TUNISIA WERE PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE BELGIAN PROPOSAL ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE EXTRA SEATS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR CATEGORY (2) AND (3) STATES. CHAIRMAN SUMMARIZED THE DISCUSSION, STATING THAT A LARGE MAJORITY WERE IN FAVOR OF AN INCREASE TO 33 MEMBERS AND THAT A DRAFT REPORT INCLUDING SUCH AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 50(A) WOULD BE PREPARED. IN LINE WITH A SUGGESTION OF JAMAICA, CALLING FOR AN ANALYSIS OF DISTRIBUTION OF COUNCIL SEATS, A FOOTNOTE WOULD CONTAIN A POSSIBLE "WHEREAS" CLAUSE ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. EGYPT INTRODUCED ITS PROPOSAL IN WP 48 FOR USE OF THE ARABIC LANGUAGE IN CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STATES AND ICAO PLUS INTERPRETATION FROM AND INTO ARABIC AT ALL SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY UNCLASSIFIED

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AND REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION MEETINGS FOR THE MIDDLE EAST. THIS

PROPOSAL WAS SECONDED BY LIBYA AND IRAQ AND SUPPORTED BY NUMEROUS OTHER STATES. US STATED US GENERAL POSITION ON LANGUAGE SERVICES; THAT ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD CONSIDER INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPLE OF USERS PAYING FOR SERVICES RECEIVED. SPECIFICALLY, US PROPOSED ARAB STATES FINANCE COSTS OF THEIR PROPOSAL AND THAT COUNCIL STUDY ENTIRE QUESTION OF FINANCING LANGUAGE SERVICES. MEXICO AND URUGUAY SUPPORTED THIS SUGGESTION, WHICH CHAIRMAN SAID WOULD BE INCLUDED IN DRAFT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THIS ITEM. NEXT THE PRC GAVE NOTICE THAT IT WILL ASK THE COUNCIL TO STUDY THE MATTER OF INTRODUCING CHINESE AS A WORKING LANGUAGE OF ICAO ON A GRADUAL BASIS SAYING "WAYS WOULD BE FOUND TO MINIMIZE COST." ADMIN. COMMISSION WILL BE CONSIDERING FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF ARABIC LANGUAGE PROPOSAL.

3. TECHNICAL COMMISSION DISCUSSED ITEM 19 AND CONSIDERED US PROPOSAL COVERING TECHNICAL PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF LEASE, CHARTER AND INTERCHANGE OF AIRCRAFT IN INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS. US PROPOSAL RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM MANY DELEGATIONS WITH A NUMBER OF MINOR CHANGES SUGGESTED. MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE PROPOSED WAS ADDITION OF ANOTHER "WHEREAS" CLAUSE NOTING THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE STATE OF OPERATOR. COMMISSION APPROVED US PROPOSAL ALONG WITH MANY MINOR CHANGES SUGGESTED, NONE OF WHICH WERE TOO SUBSTANTIVE. PAPER ACCEPTED IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH US POSITION.

4. ECONOMIC COMMISSION TOOK UP DRAFT TEXT OF REPORT ON ITEM 24.3 MAKING MINOR AMENDMENTS IN LANGUAGE. DIRECTOR GENERAL, IATA, TOOK FLOOR INDICATING IMPORTANT MEETINGS HAD KEPT HIM FROM PARTICIPATING IN DISCUSSION ON MAJOR AIR TRANSPORT PROBLEMS.

HOWEVER, HIS RECENT EXPERIENCES COULD SERVE AS EXAMPLE OF THE COMPLEXITY AND FRUSTRATIONS IN THIS FIELD. HE HAD RETURNED FROM SAN DIEGO WHERE DISCUSSIONS HAD BEEN HELD ON RATE MATTERS BY IATA BASED UPON AGREED GOVERNMENT POLICIES, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER RATES. IATA HAD ACCEPTED GOVERNMENTS STATEMENT AND RECOMMENDED MINIMUM CHARTER RATES (ACCEPTED BY MAJORITY OF AIRLINES INCLUDING SCHEDULED CARRIERS WHO OPERATE NON-SCHEDULED SERVICES). A HANDFUL OF CHARTER CARRIERS CAUSED BREAKDOWN OF PACKAGE. THIS HAD IMPLICATIONS FOR ENTIRE PACKAGE SINCE THE SCHEDULED RATES PREDICATED ON NON-SCHEDULED FLOOR UNCLASSIFIED

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LEVEL. ECAC HAD URGED ADOPTION OF RATES. CHARTER CARRIERS CONVENED THIS PAST WEDNESDAY AND TALKS BROKE DOWN. IN AN ECAC-US-CANADIAN MEETING ON OCTOBER 4 HELD IN MONTREAL, THE GOVERN-MENTS "REFUSED TO TAKE ACTION" AGAINST CARRIERS INVOLVED. THIS LED DIRECTOR GENERAL TO PUT FORTH FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT: (1) GOVERNMENTS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN RATES AND FARES MATTERS; (2) IATA MACHINERY WORKS; (3) NO MACHINERY CAN BE EFFECTIVE WITHOUT GOVERNMENTS WORKING IN CONCERT; (4) WE ARE IN

TROUBLE ON NORTH ATLANTIC, THE MOST SOPHISTICATED, MOST TRAVELLED INTERNATIONAL MARKET. VENEZUELA MOVED TO INCORPORATE CONCLUSIONS DIRECTOR GENERAL IATA IN 24.3. US, WHILE AGREEING WITH RECITATION OF DIRECTOR GENERAL ON IMPORTANCE OF PROBLEMS BEFORE US, SPOKE UP TO CLARIFY THE IMPRESSION GIVEN OF A BREAK-DOWN IN GOVERNMENT COOPERATION. ECAC-US-CANADA HAD MADE SPECIAL ATTEMPTS TO ASSIST IN RESOLUTION OF THE FARES PROBLEMS; HAD SPECIFICALLY INTERVENED TO GET THE CARRIERS BACK TO THE TABLE, AND HAD NOT FAILED IN THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. HOWEVER, JUST AS IATA HAS ITS INHIBITIONS, IN FOR INSTANCE THE UNANIMITY ROLE. SO TOO DO THE STATES HAVE INHIBITIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF CONTROL THEY CAN EXERCIZE OVER THEIR CARRIERS. THE EFFORTS OF ECAC STATES, US AND CANADA WERE INTENDED TO ASSIST IN RESOLVING THE NORTH ATLANTIC FARE IMPASSE. THIS INDEED MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM REQUIRING URGENT CONSIDERATION AND INDEED THE FINAL CHAPTER HAS NOT YET BEEN WRITTEN. US WANTED TO SET RECORD STRAIGHT. SPAIN AND CANADA IN FULL SUPPORT OF US STATEMENT. CANADA BRIEFLY, SPAIN IN LONG RAMBLING DEFENSE OF STATES.

5. ECONOMIC COMMISSION DECIDED RETAIN IN FORCE FOR NEXT TRIENNIUM CLAUSE 3 OF RESOLUTION A18-21, THUS REQUIRING COUNCIL TO REPORT AGAIN ON EFFECTIVENESS OF ALL REGIONAL AIR TRANSPORT OFFICERS AT NEXT ORDINARY SESSION OF ASSEMBLY. THIS WAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH US POSITION. COMMISSION APPROVED RESOLUTIONS TO BE CONSOLIDATED AS PROPOSED BY COUNCIL.

6. BUDGET WORKING GROUP CONTINUED CONSIDERATION OF PARTS II AND VI OF BUDGET ESTIMATES AND ADDENDUM.
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